

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SEC, UK

SUBJECT: SEC INTEREST IN MARITIME FRUIT CARRIERS CO., LTD.

AND UNIVERSAL GAS AND OIL CO., INC.

THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC) HAS REQUESTED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING INFORMATION FROM THE SHIPPING BRANCH OF THE UK'S DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND FROM H.M.'S TREASURY, CONCERNING MARITIME FRUIT CARRIERS CO., LTD. AND UNIVERSAL GAS AND OIL CO., INC. THE SEC IS CONDUCTING A "PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL INVESTIGATION" OF THE TWO COMPANIES PURSUANT TO SECTION 20 (A) OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 AND SECTION 21 (A) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934. THE SEC WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION "CONCERNING THE BACKGROUND AND COLLAPSE OF THESE TWO COMPANIES AND ANY IMPROPRIETIES' WHICH WOULD AID IN THEIR INVESTIGATION. THE SEC ASKS THAT THE EMBASSY ALSO CONTACT ANY OTHER AGENCIES OR INDIVIDUALS IN THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WITH SIMILAR INFORMATION. THE SEC INTENDS TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH RELEVANT AGENCIES OR INDIVIDUALS AFTER INITIAL EMBASSY CONTACT IS MADE. WE HAVE ASKED THE SEC TO KEEP THE DEPARTMENT INFORMED OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS CASE. ROBINSON

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